

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device for treating appendage ailments comprising:
a base web comprising a nonwoven web of fibrous material,
said base web defining a sleeve, said sleeve having a distal end and
a proximal end with one of said distal or said proximal ends being
open and configured to allow the insertion of an appendage into said
sleeve through said open end.
2. A device as defined in claim 1, wherein said sleeve is
tapered to better fit onto said appendage.
3. A device as defined in claim 1, wherein said distal end and
said proximal end are open such that said open proximal end is
adapted to allow the insertion of said appendage, said open distal
end being adapted to receive said appendage inserted at said open
proximal end such that said appendage can be inserted through said
sleeve.
4. A device as defined in claim 1, wherein said nonwoven web
is selected from the group consisting of spunbonded fiber webs,
meltblown fiber webs, spunbonded/meltblown/spunbonded fiber
webs, spunbonded/meltblown fiber webs, through air bonded webs,
and bonded carded webs.
5. A device as defined in claim 1, wherein said base web
comprises an elastic layer and a non-elastic layer, said elastic layer
comprising an elastomeric material and said non-elastic layer
comprising said nonwoven web, said non-elastic layer being attached
to said elastic layer in a manner that allows said elastomeric material
of said elastic layer to be stretched and contracted for providing said
base web with form-fitting properties.
6. A device as defined in claim 5, wherein said non-elastic

layer comprises a thermoplastic polymer.

7. A device as defined in claim 6, wherein said non-elastic layer further comprises pulp fibers.

8. A device as defined in claim 5, wherein said elastic layer comprises a fibrous material.

9. A device as defined in claim 5, wherein said elastic layer comprises a film.

10. A device as defined in claim 5, wherein said elastic layer comprises a foam.

11. A device as defined in claim 5, wherein said base web comprises a stretch-bonded laminate.

12. A device as defined in claim 5, wherein said base web comprises a neck-bonded laminate.

13. A device as defined in claim 1, further comprising a moisture barrier being incorporated onto at least a portion of said base web, said moisture barrier being substantially impermeable to liquids when contacted therewith.

14. A device as defined in claim 13, wherein said moisture barrier is vapor-permeable.

15. A device as defined in claim 13, wherein said moisture barrier comprises a plastic film.

16. A device as defined in claim 13, wherein said plastic film is a microporous film.

17. A device as defined in claim 13, wherein said moisture barrier comprises a multi-layered laminate.

18. A device as defined in claim 17, wherein one of said layers of said moisture barrier comprises a nonwoven web of fibrous material.

19. A device as defined in claim 17, wherein one of said layers of said moisture barrier comprises a vapor-permeable film.

20. A device as defined in claim 1, said base web being applied with an additive selected from the group consisting of an antibiotic, an anti-microbial agent, an anti-inflammatory agent, a moisturizing agent, a topical analgesic, a vasodilator, a corticosteroid, dimethyl sulfoxide, capsaicin, menthol, methyl salicylate, a cationic polymer, an anti-fungal agent, and combinations thereof.

21. A device as defined in claim 20, wherein said base web is treated with a cationic polymer, said cationic polymer comprising chitosan.

22. A device as defined in claim 20, wherein said base web is treated with an anti-inflammatory agent, said anti-inflammatory agent comprising a cyclooxygenase-1 inhibitor.

23. A device as defined in claim 20, wherein said base web is treated with an anti-inflammatory agent, said anti-inflammatory agent comprising a cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitor.

24. A device for treating appendage ailments comprising:

a hollow sleeve member having an open end for the insertion of an appendage, said sleeve member comprising an elastic nonwoven material, said elastic nonwoven material being capable of being stretched and contracted for providing said sleeve member with form fitting properties.

25. A device as defined in claim 24, wherein said elastic nonwoven material comprises a laminate including a non-elastic nonwoven web and an elastic component.

26. A device as defined in claim 24, wherein said sleeve member is tapered to better fit onto said appendage.

27. A device as defined in claim 25, wherein said non-elastic nonwoven web is selected from the group consisting of spunbonded fiber webs, meltblown fiber webs, spunbonded/meltblown/spunbonded fiber webs, spunbonded/meltblown fiber webs, through air bonded

webs, and bonded carded webs.

28. A device as defined in claim 24, wherein said elastic nonwoven material comprises a stretch-bonded laminate.

29. A device as defined in claim 24, wherein said elastic nonwoven material comprises a neck-bonded laminate.

30. A device as defined in claim 24, further comprising a moisture barrier being incorporated into at least a portion of said sleeve member, said moisture barrier being substantially impermeable to liquids when contacted therewith.

31. A device as defined in claim 24, said base web being applied with an additive selected from the group consisting of an antibiotic, an anti-microbial agent, an anti-inflammatory agent, a moisturizing agent, a topical analgesic, a vasodilator, a corticosteroid, dimethyl sulfoxide, capsaicin, menthol, methyl salicylate, a cationic polymer, an anti-fungal agent, and combinations thereof.

32. A device as defined in claim 24, wherein said sleeve member has a shape configured to fit onto a finger or a toe.

33. A device for treating appendage ailments comprising:

a hollow sleeve member having a first open distal end and a second open proximal end spaced from said distal end, said sleeve member having a shape configured to receive a finger or a toe, said sleeve member comprising an elastic nonwoven material, said elastic nonwoven material capable of being stretched and contracted for providing said sleeve member with form fitting properties.

34. A device as defined in claim 33, wherein said sleeve member includes a first panel attached to a second panel, said first panel comprising said elastic nonwoven material.

35. A device as defined in claim 34, wherein said second panel comprises a non-elastic nonwoven material.

36. A device as defined in claim 33, wherein said sleeve

37. A device as defined in claim 33, wherein said elastic nonwoven material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of stretch bonded laminates and neck bonded laminates.

38. A device as defined in claim 33, wherein said sleeve member is applied with an additive selected from the group consisting of an antibiotic, an anti-microbial agent, an anti-inflammatory agent, a topical analgesic, a vasodilator, a moisturizing agent, a corticosteroid, dimethyl sulfoxide, capsaicin, a cationic polymer, an anti-fungal agent, and combinations thereof.